



STINGER HOCKEY

WOMEN'S HOCKEY YEAR IN REVIEW

A Quebec Women's Hockey League playoff championship may have eluded them, but the Concordia women's hockey team can hold their heads high following a very successful 1985-86 season. Head coach Les Lawton guided his ladies of the ice to a 10-0-2 regular season record, good enough for first place. Although John Abbott Islanders edged them out in the post-season final by winning the first two games of the best of three series, the Stingers can take solace in the fact they were crowned provincial championships in the "BB" category.

On the first weekend of March the club travelled to the Quebec championships in Drummondville, where they defeated Toulouse 3-2 in the title game. Goals by Janice McDougall, Jackie Montpetit and Debbie Gill sparked the Stingers to their first provincial crown. Concordia had won its four preliminary matches beating Toulouse 2-1, Sherbrooke 2-1, Laval 3-2 and Granby 3-1.

Against John Abbott in the QWHL final, the Islanders won the first game 3-1 and took game two with a thrilling 2-1 decision in overtime.

All in all, coach Lawton was very proud of his team's performance. It was quite an improvement from their 2-5-4 third place showing in 1984-85.

But this was also a season of tragedy for the lady pucksters. On her way home from a game one cold January evening second year Stinger forward Denise Beaudette was killed in a car accident. Coach Lawton likened her loss to that suffered by the NHL's Philadelphia Flyers, when their goaltender Pelle Lindbergh died in an automobile mishap last fall.